

## ABSTRACT

This invention relates to the use of elastomers with the sealing element of reciprocating gas compressor valves to increase the reliability of the gas tight seal within the reciprocating gas compressor valve and to increase the useful life of reciprocating gas compressor valve. The elastomeric material is either used as a coating layer on the sealing  
5 element of the reciprocating gas compressor valve, or as the entire sealing element. The elastomeric material acts as a cushion to reduce the wear on the sealing element, provides a superior gas tight seal, and is more tolerant of entrained dirt or liquids in the gas stream thereby increasing the operable life of the reciprocating gas compressor valve. Reducing the  
10 mean time between reciprocating gas compressor valve failures results in longer reciprocating gas compressor run times for the user, increased revenue generation for the user and safer operation of said equipment.

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